

# THE BROAD AX

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## The People Throughout French Republic Champion The Cause of The Colored Soldier And The Colored People In General

### THEY CONDEMN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

For Their Narrow-Mindedness And Unreasoning Race Prejudice

THE FRENCH CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES CONTEND THAT COLORED MEN IN NONE OF THE COLONIES OF FRANCE HAVE EVER BEEN GUILTY OF ASSAULTING FRENCH WOMEN; THAT THE FRENCH PEOPLE THOROUGHLY BELIEVE IN JUSTICE, FRATERNITY AND SOCIAL EQUALITY.

The French chamber of deputies recently gave public expressions through the Journal Official regarding the treatment of the colored soldiers in France.

Carl Linar, chief of the French military commission, attached to the American army, on Aug. 7, 1918, issued confidential circulars to French officers. The circular or document contained statements derogatory to American Negroes and was intended to poison the minds of French people with American propaganda.

#### What the Document Stated.

First—That French officers commanding black troops should consider the state and treatment of the Negro in the United States and be governed accordingly, and that it was their duty to inform the French population of such.

Second—That any familiarity, or indulgence shown the Negro would profoundly hurt the American whites. That American opinion of the Negro did not admit of discussion; that the races in America must be kept separate because the 15,000,000 Negroes in the United States otherwise would cause the white people to degenerate.

Third—The Negro is the inferior of the white man, that he is ignorant and unintelligent; that he attacked French women; that the black troops, although they were the cream of their kind, had caused more complaints because of their attempts to rob than all the rest of the army. That if the French people treated the Negro as an equal it would cause an intolerant spirit in the Negro on his return to America. That any intimacy of Negroes in France with white women would cause the loss of white prestige.

#### Boisneuf Says the Document a Lie.

That Negroes had attacked women in France or stolen or robbed any more than other was calumny and a lie, said Deputy Boisneuf. He challenged anyone to show where and when the blacks had attacked women in France and stated that this was a pretext for lynching in America.

#### No Attacks by Negro in French Colonies.

M. Boisneuf further stated that from the judicial records of the French and English colonies, 95 per cent being Negroes, that not a single attack on white women had ever been reported.

#### Lauds Negro Soldiers.

Negro soldiers had deported themselves as of the highest type of gallants. That many carried battle scars and wore French medals, the Croix de Guerre and the Medaille Militaire, and even the Americans had sought to tear them from the breast of Negroes that they still typified France's appreciation of honor.

#### The Order of the Day—Racial Equality.

The order of the day was unanimously voted. The chamber of deputies, true to the immortal principles which have inspired the declaration of the rights of man and of citizens, condemns all prejudices of race, color or creed and proclaims absolute equality and equal protection of the laws. The government will prevent any further insults to Negroes in France. (Applause by all present.)

#### THE RIGHT MAN FOR DELEGATE TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

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Hon. William H. Cruden is one of the ablest candidates for delegates for the Constitutional Convention. SEVEN—BROAD AX

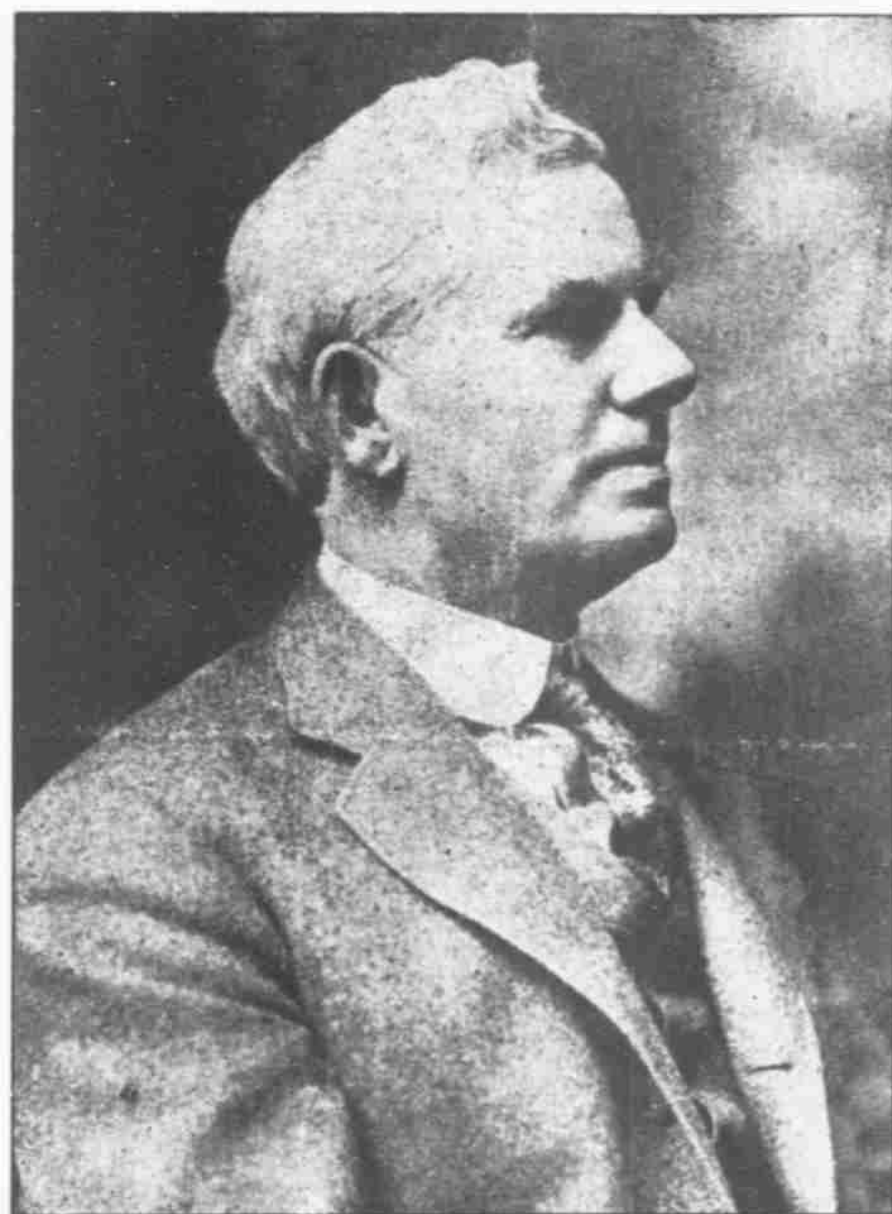
Mr. Cruden lives in the 32nd Ward. He served with credit in the last session of the legislature from the Eleventh Senatorial District. For many years he has been in public life; was Chief Inspector of Employment Agencies for eight years; has worked for the Juvenile Court, the Office of the Board of Review, with the Illinois Humane Society; and served on the commission which drew the Adult Parole and Probation Law. Mr. Cruden has done a good deal of work in behalf of the colored people and has been especially interested in the civic and charitable legislation. He is a Presbyterian and a Mason. Mr. Cruden, in his campaigns, has always had the support of the colored people and if elected they will have a friend in the Constitutional Convention. He deserves support at the polls Wednesday.

#### AN IDEAL CANDIDATE FOR DELEGATE TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FROM THE 11TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS.

Hon. Chester W. Church, Republican candidate for delegate to the Constitutional Convention in the 11th Senatorial District, is a former member of the Illinois legislature, where he served for ten years. He is a lawyer and is well acquainted with the needs of the citizens of Chicago and the state of Illinois. As a member of the legislature he always proved himself to be a friend of the colored people and is well qualified by experience and training to represent our district in this important position.

The best interests of all of the people of Illinois will be safe in the hands of Mr. Church.

Prof. W. W. Fisher, of Evanston, Ill., who holds down a responsible position in the office of the Attorney General of Illinois and who is one of the leading colored real estate owners of Evanston; spent the latter part of his vacation visiting his relatives and friends at Erie, Pa., Cleveland, Ohio, and at other points in that section of the country.



HON. MARTIN B. MADDEN

Member of Congress from the First Congressional District of Illinois; steadfast friend of the colored race; who stood up the past week on the floor of Congress and fought "Jim Crowism" and "Jim Crow" legislation with all his force and power at his command.

#### CONGRESSMAN MARTIN B. MADDEN STILL CONTINUES TO BATTLE AGAINST "JIM CROWISM" AND "JIM CROW CARS" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday of the past week Hon. Martin B. Madden, who is one of the best and truest friends that the colored race has ever had in either house or congress, brought forward his bill before the house committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, to enact federal legislation prohibiting "Jim Crow cars" or other legislation discriminating against the colored race on railroad or steamships within the United States.

As usual, the fire-eating, the so-called Southern representatives took prompt exception to Mr. Madden's arguments, calling attention to recent race riots in Chicago and other northern cities.

#### Negroes Favor Measure.

Mr. Madden advocated the inclusion of the provisions of a bill introduced by him in general railroad legislation. A delegation from the Colored American council, which sponsors the bill, was present.

Representative Sanders of Louisiana was the most outspoken in opposition to the bill among members of the committee.

"We contend that the Negro prefers separate accommodations," said Mr. Sanders. "Our Negroes down south,

knowing they aren't welcome in the white man's coach, don't go in."

Mr. Sanders asked Mr. Madden if it was not true that a great majority of the Negroes live in the south.

"Yes," replied Mr. Madden, "but I don't see what that has to do with this bill. We think they should be treated in the south the same as in the north."

#### Refers to Race Riots.

"Negroes in my community are treated better than in your city of Chicago," retorted Mr. Sanders.

"The Chicago situation was an unfortunate one that nobody can explain," replied Mr. Madden.

"They are treated better in the south than they were in East St. Louis in your state a few years ago," continued Mr. Sanders, "or in Springfield in your state. You are bringing in a bill to force the Negro to ride in the white man's coach regardless of his wishes."

"I want to make the rule uniform throughout the country," said Mr. Madden.

"You did not believe in a uniform law when you voted against prohibition," returned Mr. Sanders.

#### For Uniform Wetness.

"I wanted the country uniformly wet," replied the Illinois member. Representative Rayburn of Texas also took issue with Mr. Madden.

"You believe in the absolute equality of races so far as travel is concerned?" asked Mr. Rayburn.

"Yes, I do," said Mr. Madden.

"Do you believe in social equality in all respects?" continued Mr. Rayburn. Mr. Madden refused to discuss the question.

Congressman Madden displayed very sound judgment when he promptly declined to discuss the social equality question with the Hon. Congressman Rayburn of Texas. For more than fifty years the South has not brought forth one single statesman who has been able to discuss any of the great national issues or questions for five minutes, without harping on the "Negro Question", social equality, and do you want your beautiful daughter to marry a big black "Nigger?"

That is what the southern members of congress call great statesmanship and many of those same southern gentlemen who are so fearful of their social standing spend much of their leisure time wrapped up in the arms of their Colored Lady Lovers.

Therefore Congressman Madden is wise not to pay much attention to their wild vapors on the social equality bug-bear.

Misses Mary E. Branch and Harris H. Johnson, teachers in the V. N. and I. L. Petersburg, Va., who have been attending the University of Chicago during the summer, left the city for the East where they will visit relatives and friends before taking up their fall work.

#### NEGRO BUSINESS LEAGUE STANDS FOR LAW AND ORDER

Dr. Moton Elected President; Dr. Scott, Secretary; Napier Condemns Mob Violence; Constructive Program; Philadelphia Meeting in 1920; "Message to the Country."

Hampton, Va.—The National Negro Business League, founded nineteen years ago by Dr. Booker T. Washington, stands squarely for "law and order, peace and progress, justice and 100 per cent Americanism." The St. Louis meeting brought together for "A Reconstruction and Readjustment Conference" a thousand delegates from 26 States—men and women of thrift, perseverance, vision, and faith—pioneers in the Negro business world—disciplined optimists and safe race leaders.

By acclamation Dr. Robert R. Moton principal of Tuskegee Institute and a distinguished graduate of Hampton, was elected president. Hon. J. C. Napier of Nashville, Tenn, former Register of the U. S. Treasury, who served as president of the League for three years, following the death of Dr. Washington, was elected honorary president. Dr. Emmett J. Scott of Washington, D. C., secretary and treasurer of Howard University, formerly secretary of Tuskegee and more recently special assistant to Secretary N. D. Baker, was re-elected secretary of the League, amid great public applause. The new chairman of the executive committee is Dr. Robert E. Jones of New Orleans, editor of the "Southwestern Christian Advocate," who is a brilliant seaker and writer, as well as a fine executive officer. The League will meet in Philadelphia in 1920.

#### Appeal to Negro Soldiers.

Referring to the returning Negro soldiers, President Napier said: "You have made a record for patriotism, courage, bravery, and reckless disregard of life in an hour of danger that has never been surpassed by any other group of soldiers in the world."

"Let me beseech you to let no deed or act of yours in civil life stain or blot out this heroic record. Your country and your fellow-citizens appreciate the sacrifices you have made and the services you have rendered. They will ever be ready to honor you and to protect you."

"You have won for yourselves and for all Americans, black and white, a title in fee-simple to a brand of true democracy and liberty which you yourselves have not yet received, but which Negroes hope and pray will soon be deeded to them and their heirs. For this Negroes will ever seek and make demand."

"Without this democracy we would have our fellow-citizens everywhere know that we are a dissatisfied and discontented people with a grievance that can never be forgotten. We simply ask for what was promised to us, when we were called to do our part in driving autocracy and militarism from Europe and thereby making the world safe for democracy."

"America has contracted many debts during the World War. She will pay all of them in whatever coin her creditors demand. It does not yet appear, however, whether or not she will pay the Negro soldier and the Negro citizen the debt due them for their part in driving out the Hun or in the coin which they now demand."

#### No Sympathy With Criminals.

"This League should go on record as being strongly opposed to mob violence and everlastingly in favor of law and order. We have no sympathy or fellow feeling with the criminal, whether he be white or black, or whether he be the individual who attempts to outrage womanhood or a member of the mob which unlawfully arrogates to itself the right to administer punishment and to take life."

#### Mob Violence Not Surprising.

"There is no wonder that mob violence prevails in a land where one group of citizens by law, practice, or custom may withhold at will any right or privilege from another. The withholding or withdrawing of a small right today will only tend to the withholding or withdrawing of a greater right tomorrow."

"If my neighbor's child is taught that he can wrong me, or outrage me, or Jimcrow me, or lynch me in a small way by depriving me of any right which he himself enjoys, it will only be a short step for him to join a mob and take my life. Mob law is a creation of the white man! It is his institution. He supports and maintains it. When he sees fit to remove its disgrace, mob law will be wiped from the map of our country."

#### Bright Business Outlook.

"Post-war duties are going to open new fields of business activity. The markets of the world are open. Let us study these markets from every possible angle. No more interesting or instructive study can be found than that of securing a proper knowledge of the commodities which constitute the necessities of life for the poor and the luxuries of the rich. When this knowledge is properly assimilated men will secure wealth, ease, and comfort. Business men will then bring happiness to the communities which they serve."

#### Dr. Moton Proud of Negroes.

Dr. Scott read a letter from the "Roosevelt Memorial Association" asking the League to help boom the campaign for \$5,000,000, during the week of October 20 to 27. Dr. Moton, who is the colored representative in the permanent Association, made a vigorous appeal to the Coliseum audience for their moral and financial support of this worthy project. He also said that he wished to commend the excellent address which President Napier had made.

Dr. Moton told briefly the story of his trip overseas, made at the request of President Wilson and Secretary Baker, and his work on behalf of the maligned Negro soldiers and officers.

"No one," he said, "needs to be ashamed of the Negro soldiers or officers, either as to their valor, or courage, or morality. Negroes do not ask for their race any special privileges. They do ask for and insist upon having an equal chance in every human endeavor—not more and no less." Cries of "God bless you" and "That's right" greeted Dr. Moton's vibrant words of courage and faith.